

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE



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Greenlake Cabinet Contractor Pleads Guilty to First Degree Theft and Filing False Tax Returns

SEATTLE, Wash., April 13, 2004 — A Seattle cabinet and construction company owner pleaded guilty today to two counts of first degree theft for stealing \$170,000 in state sales tax and two counts of filing false tax returns with the Department of Revenue.

Paul Vetter, 62, faces a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison and a \$20,000 fine. The false-return charges carry a maximum penalty of five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

King County Superior Court Judge ProTem Kenneth Comstock set sentencing for May 14, 2004. Vetter will appear before Judge Charles Mertel for sentencing.

The Financial Crimes Unit of the Washington State Attorney General's Office filed the charges against Vetter, the owner of Greenlake Cabinets and Construction Company, Inc., at the request of the Department of Revenue.

The Department of Revenue uncovered Vetter's theft during an audit, which found that he had reported only two percent of work done by his company and filed false tax returns with the Department. Vetter received more than \$1,994,000 in gross income from his construction business during 1999 through 2001, and collected over \$174,300 in sales tax on that work. However, Vetter only reported \$41,051 in gross income to the Department of Revenue and remitted only \$3,568 in sales tax.

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